HOT SWAPPABLE ELECTRONIC MODULE WITH NON-STAGGERED CONNECTORS

ABSTRACT

A hot swappable electronic component or module is provided that has nonstaggered connectors (i.e., of equal length or depth), but which is configured to
ensure that power, signal or other connectors are electrically coupled in a desired
order. The electronic component includes a switch (e.g., a field effect transistor)
having a gate coupled to a ground line that is configured for coupling to a ground
reference of the interface with which the component is mated. A source of the
switch is coupled to a voltage input (e.g., power, Vcc) and a drain is coupled to an
internal component load or circuit. Until the gate is coupled to ground, the switch
remains open, thereby preventing spurious signals or feedback of damaging
current to the interface. When the gate is coupled to ground, the switch is closed
and the internal load or circuit is energized.

Inventors: Meert, et al